



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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SEPTEMBER 1 CROP YIELDS GENERALLY DOWN DUE TO DROUGHT

Based on September 1 conditions, yields for cotton, corn, peanuts, and soybeans are all down from last year, due to the extended summer drought. Tobacco was the lone bright spot. Early season scattered precipitation have tobacco producers expecting slightly higher yields than those seen in 2006, the USDA NASS South Carolina Field Office announced today.

COTTON production in 2007 is forecast at 180,000 bales – down 33 percent from last month and 58 percent from last year. Yield per acre is expected to average 485 pounds, down 165 pounds from the August forecast, and down 212 pounds from the 2006 yield. Acreage for harvest, at 178,000 acres, is down 40 percent from 2006.

CORN production in 2007 is expected to total 37.0 million bushels, unchanged from last month, but up 16 percent from last year. Expected yield per acre of 100 bushels is unchanged from the August forecast, but down 10 bushels from 2006. Acreage for harvest as grain, at 370,000, is up 80,000 acres from 2006.

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO production, as of September 1, is forecast at 49.5 million pounds. This is unchanged from last month's forecast, but up two percent from last year's production of 48.3 million pounds. Yield per acre of 2,250 pounds is unchanged from last month, but is up seven percent from last year. Acreage for harvest, at 22,000, is unchanged from last month, but down 1,000 acres from a year ago.

SOYBEAN production this year is forecast at 9.0 million bushels, down 15 percent from last month and down 20 percent from last year. Expected yield per acre of 22 bushels is down four bushels from the August estimate and seven bushels from 2006. Acres for harvest, at 410,000, is up 20,000 acres from a year ago.

PEANUT production is forecast at 156.8 million pounds – down three percent from last month and down 10 percent from a year ago. Yield per acre, at 2,800 pounds is down 300 pounds from August and the 2006 yield. Acreage for harvest, at 56,000, is unchanged from last year.

UNITED STATES 2007 PRODUCTION AND PERCENT OF PREVIOUS YEAR

Corn	13.3	Bil. Bus.	126 %	Peanuts	3.34	Bil. Lbs.	96 %
Soybeans	2.62	Bil. Bus.	82 %	Cotton, Upland	17.0	Mil. Bales	82 %
Tobacco, F.C.	458	Mil. Lbs	102 %				